Disinvestment of NFL, MFL and PPL

3356. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to disinvest 51 per cent of the equity holding out of 97.65 per cent in NFL, 32.74 per cent of its holding out of 58.74 per cent in MFL and 74 per cent of its holding out of 100 per cent in PPL, in favour of strategic buyers, alongwith transfer of management control;

(b) if so, what is the latest position in this regard; and

(c) to what extent the aims and objectives of this disinvestment in these fertilizer units have been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYABRATAMOOKHERJEE): (a) Government have decided to disinvest 51 % of its equity in NFL out of 97.65% and to retain 26% of equity in MFL and PPL.

(b) and (c) While 74% of Government held equity in PPL has been disinvested on 28.2.2002 alongwith its management control to M/s Zuari Maroc Phosphates Private Limited, the disinvestment process in the case of NFL and MFL is at an advanced stage.

Hazardous chemicals in UCL premises

3357. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some studies indicate that the Union Carbide premises still have hazardous chemicals and toxins;

(b) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has approached the Union Government for financial support for removal of hazardous chemicals; and

(c) if so, when Government would release the money and clear all the toxic substances from the premises of the Union Carbide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) According to the information given by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, they are in touch with the Ministry of Defence to help them in the removal of toxic wastes from the site of Union Carbide India Limited.